

Comment for Satellite Radio: Proceeding Number IB 95-91

Regarding XM Satellite Radio and Sirius Satellite Radio. - As both companies are calling themselves a satellite radio delivery service, they are in actuality trying to become terrestrial broadcast networks with satellite delivery to their terrestrial-based transmitters. This should then make them responsible to the same restrictions as other commercial broadcasters in all aspects of operation.

Regarding repeater classes - satellite radio should be comparable to the translator rules that are in effect for terrestrial broadcasters in allowed power and allowed location. They should be limited to even less than the 2 kW low power repeaters proposed and definitely not be allowed the 40 kW high power repeaters requested. To allow these repeaters at these power levels and numbers removes them from the satellite broadcast field and places them in the field of terrestrial broadcast. They should then have to go through the normal selection process for a commercial broadcaster and not just rely on their name of being a satellite broadcaster.

Regarding authorized transmissions - They should need to stay with the 'simultaneous' retransmission on any repeaters that are allowed. To allow 'nearly simultaneous' would be to make each repeater into a possible local station, again moving from the field of satellite broadcast into the field of terrestrial commercial broadcast.

Regarding Emission Limits - The allowable out of band emissions and emission masks should reflect protection of existing neighboring spectrum users of the satellite radio delivery. The Satellite Radio Service should not be allowed to enter a market with a terrestrial repeater with fewer technical restrictions than that of existing spectrum users. To do so would be discriminatory against the existing users in favor of a company that is already trying to hide behind the name of a satellite broadcast service while in fact being a terrestrial radio network.

Regarding Low Power Repeater operation - To allow unlimited satellite radio repeater licenses without coordination could be detrimental to existing services and very hard to remedy after the fact. It would also be providing a government preference for a commercial radio business over existing operation already in place. The Satellite Radio Broadcaster should have to coordinate with existing operators in a timely manner of at least 30 to 60 days before commencing operation. This would give time for existing operators to study the proposed Low Power Repeater operation for interference and other spectral problems that it could create. They should also have to provide the technical data on their proposed system to current operators and provide any other needed information for this study to be completed. Also the Satellite Radio Service should be responsible both financially and technically to eliminate, or mitigate any interference caused to other operators and restore them to a state of service existing before they entered the market. The existing state of service should be the current operators' licence and performance measurements unless the Satellite Radio Service can use technical data gathered before their entry into the market to show what the operators state of service was. All of this should be the financial and technical responsibility of the Satellite Radio

Service.

Regarding High Power Repeater Operation. - As well as the restrictions placed on Low Power Repeater operation, this repeater classification should start at anything above the power level of an existing translator. It should then be classified a commercial broadcast station and have to follow the rules pertaining to all other commercial broadcast stations.